

FALLING ROLLS SUPPORT FUND 2015-16 – REVISION TO AGREED EXTENSION**Background**

At the meeting of the Schools Funding Forum of 18th June 2015 it was agreed to extend the criteria for the allocation of funding for Good and Outstanding schools with temporary falling rolls.

The extension was to recognise that as schools with low numbers in previous years begin to fill in Year R (Primary) or Year 7 (Secondary) the need for financial support moves to Years 1 or 8 as the smaller cohort moves through the school.

The criteria was agreed as follows:

Formula for distributing funding:	Eligible Year Group	
	85% of the appropriate AWPU x per vacant place below 85% of the PAN	R
85% of the appropriate AWPU x per vacant place below 50% of the PAN	1	8

This extension required an additional £54,000 for 2015-16 financial year which the Funding Forum agreed could be met from the DSG underspend carried forward from 2014-15.

Proposed Revision

Clarification has since been sought from the DfE and advice received that the original budget to support falling rolls cannot be increased from year to year.

To ensure the funding does not exceed the budget of £500,000 the extension to the criteria needs to be reduced as follows:

Formula for distributing funding:	Eligible Year Group	
	85% of the appropriate AWPU x per vacant place below 85% of the PAN	R
85% of the appropriate AWPU x per vacant place below 41% of the PAN	1	8

Recommendation

It is recommended that

- (i) the proposal to amend the calculation of 2015-16 funding be agreed
- (ii) the £54k originally earmarked for this extension be added to the £465k uncommitted DSG to be carried forward to 2016-17
- (iii) a further report be received in the autumn term proposing the calculation of support to schools with falling rolls funding arrangements for 2016-17